

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 0207Z 221128Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 AF-08 CU-02 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00  
EB-08 /094 W

-----221206Z 037573 /10

R 211311Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9424  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY RABAT  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E.O.11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, SP, EG  
SUBJECT: EARLY PRESS COVERAGE OF VISIT OF JUAN CARLOS TO EGYPT

REF: MADRID 2059

1. EARLY SPANISH PRESS COVERAGE OF THE VISIT TO EGYPT OF KING JUAN CARLOS HAS BEEN VOLUMINOUS, BUT THIN ON SUBSTANCE. MUCH OF THE SPECULATION AND THEMES HAVE BEEN ESSENTIALLY THE SAME FROM ONE PAPER TO ANOTHER, FOCUSING ON HISTORIC TIES. CURRENT WARM RELATIONS ( WITH SPANISH SUPPORT FOR ARAB ME POSITIONS STRESSED), AND PROSPECTS FOR CLOSER ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL COOPERATION IN THE FUTURE.

2. "SPAIN COULD PLAY THE INTERMEDIARY OF THE ARAB WORLD IN EUROPE" HEADLINED YA MARCH 20. BUT THE ACCOMPANYING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STORY ATTRIBUTED THE THOUGHT TO NO ONE. OTHER PAPERS STRESSED DIFFERENT ASPECTS, WITH EL PAIS QUOTING JUAN CARLOS EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT FOR EGYPT'S EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE PEACE AND ABC (MONARCHIST) CLAIMING INTEREST IN EGYPT FOR THE VISIT (EL PAIS CORRESPONDENT THE DAY BEFORE HAD IN FACT ASSERTED JUST THE OPPOSITE AT LEAST IN TERMS OF EGYPTIAN PRESS COVERAGE.)

3. THE ONE MORNING PAPER MARCH 21 HEADLINED "JUAN CARLOS AND SADAT, TOTALLY IN AGREEMENT, CITING EGYPTIAN FONMIN FAHMI AS THE SOURCE OF THE ASSERTION AND LISTING THE ME SITUATION AND FORMULS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN SPAIN AND THE ARAB WORLD AS THE MAJOR THEMESE OF THE FIRST MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO MEN. FAHMI WAS ALSO QUOTED AS SAYING THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE AT THE END OF THE VISIT COULD INCLUDE AN INVITATION FROM JUAN CARLOS TO SADAT TO VISIT SPAIN.

4. ALL PAPERS AGREED IN THE EARLY COVERAGE ON ONE THING, THE GROSSLY INADEQUATE ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR SPANISH JOURNALISTS COVERING THE VISIT. PROTESTS TO SPANISH AMBASSADOR DIEZ ALEGRIA AND FONMIN OREHA BROUGHT A PROMISE FROM THE LATTER TO TALK WITH THEM ABOUT IT.EATON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, FOREIGN RELATIONS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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